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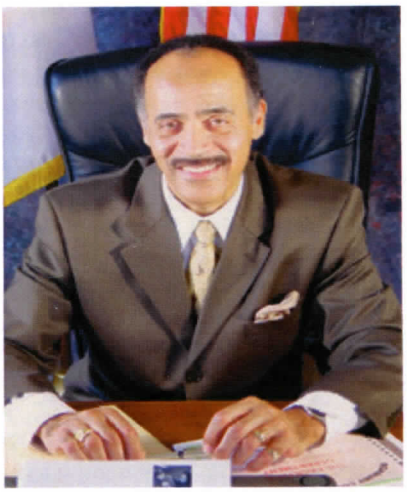
RCC Students Newsletter

Roxbury Community College

Fall 2003
Volume 1,

WELCOME DR. TERRENCE A. GOMES



Terrence A. Gomes, or "Terry" as he prefers to be called, earned his Bachelor of Arts from Lincoln University, Master of Arts from Rhode Island College, and his Doctor of Education from Nova University. He furthered his education through postdoctoral studies at Harvard University.

In 1977, Dr. Gomes was appointed assistant Dean of Faculty at Roxbury Community College. In 1982, he was appointed Dean of Continuing Education at Massasoit Community College. While at Massoit, Dr. Gomes held several positions including Dean of Faculty and Instruction, Vice President of Faculty and Instruction, and in 1999 was appointed Vice President of Institutional planning and Development. In summer of 2002, Roxbury Community College recruited Dr. Gomes to serve as Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.. In early 2003, he was appointed as Acting President of Roxbury Community College. Following a nationwide search, Dr. Gomes was then selected by the Roxbury Community College Board of Trustees to serve as the thirteenth president of the College.

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Excerpt passage from the Inaugural Speech of President Terrence Gomes

The New Roxbury Community College

My return to the College a year ago was not planned, but when Dr. Bromery, who was the Interim President at the time, called to talk to me about returning to the College to assist him by assuming the role of the Interim Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs. I knew in my heart that this was the place for me to be, and that feeling hasn't changed, now that I'm the president .

When Dr. Bromery left at the end of January 2003, I was appointed the acting president of the College. I didn't know, but I would soon find out, how the College community would respond to this new change in leadership. It was how this College responded to a fiscal challenge that we all faced that told me everything I needed to know about the character and commitment of the people who worked here.

It is that same kind of comradarie and commitment that I will need to move this College forward in the years ahead. As the faculty and staff have heard me say on more than one occasion, leadership is collective in its implementation. What will be done will get accomplished because of what we do together. What we must be is a college that is student-centered and community focused, a college whose efforts are directed towards enhancing learning for all students and providing low cost quality services and programs to all members of the community.

Together, we will build a new Roxbury Community College, one whose direction will be chartered over the next few months through a strategic planning process that will be both thorough and inclusive. I will invite the College and community stakeholders to take part in our discussions that will help create a shared vision and plan for the College.

As president, I pledge that the new Roxbury Community College will do all that it can to help develop this state and this community's most important resources; its people.

My vision is to create an institution that will be a truly comprehensive, urban-public community college. One that will,

indeed, serve as the hub of the community. The emphasis on teaching and learning will, of course, remain at the forefront, but we must help to ensure that our community workforce is equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to carve out a career in today's new information age, knowledge based economy.

But, we cannot be a truly comprehensive college, unless we expand our programs and services. We must do more to develop programs in areas such as the technologies, allied health and sciences and the arts. Tight budgets and fiscal constraints may make such talk seem somewhat foolhardy, as the task could be a daunting one. However the realization here is that through creativity collaborations and partnerships much can be accomplished that would be of value to the institution and its students. Such collaborative efforts should include teaming up with community-based organizations, business hospitals, and other type of agencies and or facilities to better meet our needs.

Most of what I see happening in this area will come under the umbrella of what I will call RCC, not Roxbury Community College but Roxbury Community Corporate College, a new entity that will develop and administer these and other types of corporate educational and training programs.

I also envision a college that will focus more attention on the beginning and early points of the student enrollment continuum. That is to young children and our seniors. I see the work in this area being housed under another new entity within the College, also carrying the RCC acronym. This new center will be called the "Roxbury Children & Seniors' College program and will, eventually offer educational and cultural programs all year round for children and senior citizens of this community.

I also envision a college whose out reach into the community will lead to the creation of several satellite operations so that selected pockets of the community are afforded better access to our programs and services

I also foresee a college whose future will include the optimizing of teaching and learning strategies to include the increased utilization of electronic interactive technology. My expectation is that the virtual college will become a reality at the new Roxbury Community College.

My Vision for Student Government Association
By Abeba Attles (SGA President)

Becoming a leader is not an easy task. When I decided to run for student government president I thought about it for the entire summer prior to the September election. I pondered many questions. Am I the right person for the position? Am I capable of fulfilling the needs and interests of RCC students that would vote for me trusting that I would work for their best interest. I even went and talked to the previous Student Government President . It was not an overnight decision for me, but once I chose to run, I made it my commitment to take a stand and make a difference on behalf of my fellow students. Now that I have been elected, I see that the real work is ahead of me and I have but one-school-year's time to make that difference.

I have been at Roxbury Community College for the last three years. A great part of who I am today, I attribute to the impact of RCC on my life. I have spoken to many people who have grown up in the shadows of RCC. I am amazed when I hear the comments from some of them who suggest that the educational experience at RCC is uninspiring. Apparently, those people do not see the Roxbury Community College I have grown to appreciate and respect. I spend my nights studying just as hard as any student at any school in America. The great difference, however, is that unlike a vast majority of colleges in this country RCC has formulated a special blend of family atmosphere amongst an international body of students, faculty and staff. It very well may be, that the real measurement of education revolves around the ability of a person to understand and accept the cultures of people outside of the lifestyle that he or she has grown up with and is accustomed to. Roxbury Community College is a laboratory of multi-cultural interaction, and I am proud to be a part of that learning process. RCC is like my other family and my other home. As President of the SGA, it is my obligation to give my level-best effort to the institution that has given so unselfishly to me.

Student Government Association stands for the students of RCC. We represent you and we have been given the responsibility of being the voice of the student body. Consequently, we have determined that it is essential that we maintain an open line of communication between the student government, the faculty, the administration and the student body. As part of my objective to improve these communications, I have compiled the first "Student's Newsletter" on behalf of Student Government for students.

This newsletter is the beginning of what I hope will be a program of more widespread student participation, in the student government and in the various programs and activities offered by the College. I expect our next issue will be a collaboration of ideas and contribution of articles from more students. I am especially interested in reaching out to our nighttime students who are unable to be here to participate in the student life that the day students enjoy. We need to take some affirmative action to include our nighttime student body in the activities that can be easily taken for granted by daytime students. Let's all get involved. Make some time to write an article for your newsletter. Your voice must be heard for you to make a difference.

I believe that this year is a great year for RCC. We have a new president who is very much student centered, he is full of energy and he is not afraid of new ideas. We can accomplish a lot. I believe we can work out a way to get more books for students in our library. I believe we can work out a way to reduce the high price of textbooks, I believe we can work out a way to make registration day more tolerable and resolve many of the administrative frustrations that accompany the registration process.

I believe that RCC students can get the best service they expect from the College and much more. But, this will only happen with the combined interest and efforts of the student leaders, the faculty and staff but with the participation of the entire student body.

Students will have an access for suggestion boxes in the library, learning center and the cafeteria. If you do not have time to write a suggestion, feel free to come and talk to us in the student center. All students who have concerns or ideas and want to see SGA officials are welcome at the student center 3rd floor room 319.

What is student Government Association

The Roxbury Community College Students Government Association (SGA) serves as the official student voice to RCC Administration , the Board of Trustees, and the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. The mission of SGA is to earnestly represent the interest of students and increase student decision–making power, to improve campus life through the creation and continuation of viable and effective student services, to preserve and protect the traditions and legends of RCC, and to support students and student organizations in their academic and community endeavors. To this end, new leaders are elected from and by the general student population each fall semester, and assembly meetings are held to discuss issues, appropriate funds and initiate projects. SGA representatives and volunteers serve on all College governance committees to guarantee active representation of student interest and concerns.

In order to qualify for an elected or volunteer position, a student must:

- Be in good academic standing
- Have a grade point average of 2.5 (for the offices of President, Vice President Secretary, Treasurer, Student Trustee) and 2.0 for all other representatives.
- Be enrolled full time (12 or more credits) at the time of the election

The purpose of Student Government Association

- Encourage and promote the participation of students in academic, cultural and recreational activities
- Promote and carry out student activity programs that will best serve the interests of the college
- Provide leadership among the clubs and organizational campus
- Provide opportunity for dialogue among students faculty and administration

How may members are elected to Student Government Association?

• President	Abeba Attles
• Vice president	Andrew Sande
• Secretary	Danielle Cunningham
• Treasurer	Linda Medina
• Student Trustee	Paul Igboenysei
	Aaron Ash
• 7 Representatives	Ivet Aries

What are the benefits of being an SGA members

As a member of the Student Government Association you:

- Will be chosen to participate in one of the college-wide standing committees
- May choose to become a member of the program committee to help plan student event participation in student activities, sponsored lectures, seminars, fundraisers, and other entertainment events.

Dear Students:

The Office of Student Activities welcomes you to Roxbury Community College.

The Office of Student Activities is the department of the College for student enrichment, cultural and social events.
I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to enchance your educatioanal, cultural and social experieence here at the College.
Under the leadership and guidance of my office, students are encouraged to become involved in activities that promote qualities of leadership, initiative cooperation and sportsmanship through social interaction and personal exploration. Student Activities is an ongoing dimension of campus life at Roxbury Community College.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Clark, M.Ed.
Director of Student Activities

Roxbury Community College Honors Program

Roxbury Community College's Honors Program designed to provide quality educational opportunities that are suited to the needs, wishes and abilities of its student body. The Honors program offers academically talented students a stimulating, challenging and rewarding academic experience. The Honors Program provide exceptionally gifted and motivated students with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge through independent research and creative work.

Honors Program Advantage

Automatic acceptance in to State College/University Honor Program

Cultural and Social Activities

Field Trips and Conventions

Honors Study/ Lounge Center

Membership in to International Honor Society

Scholarship Opportunities

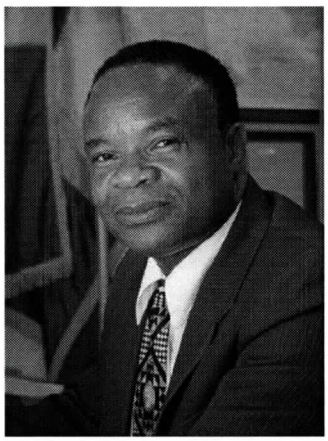
Small Classes

Special Recognition at graduation

Tuition Wavier during last semester graduation

Honor Students must meet the following Requirements::

Honor student must maintain 3.35 GPA



Dr. Everest Onuoha, Honor Coordinator
Dean of liberal Art

Three honor Courses or more credit)

Honor students must complete 3 or more honors courses

One Honors Colloquium: Upon complete ion of English Composition I (ENG 20-102), students must enroll in the Honor Colloquium three (3) credits. The Colloquium is exclusive and required of all students enrolled in the Honor program.

For more Information on Honors Program Contact:

Dr. Everest Onuoha Honor Coordinator
Roxbury Community College
1234 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02120
(617)427-0060- Ext.5175

STEP UP TO THE PLATE

Let us rally around our home team! The Liberal Arts Division's "Silent Auction" needs your help in raising funds for our annual scholarship. As you clean out your closets, garage, attics, and offices, please bring us any saleable merchandise that may be of interest to your colleagues. Some good sellers are books old jewelry, musical instruments, artwork, memorabilia, interesting clothing, etc.

Last year, with funds collected from our "Silent Auction", we awarded scholarships to three outstanding students. This year we hope to add the "Professor Agre Mbere Memorial Scholarship" and to award it to a student in the department of social Sciences. Let us continue to support our home team and help open the "Gateway to the Dream". You are the best fans, so let's make it happen.

Please bring your donation by December 5th to Judy Kahalas in the Writing center or Call Ext.5491 for pick–up.

Thank you from the committee

Judy Kahalas, Virgilio Acevedo, Susan Black, Veronica McCormack, Ed Moussally, and David Updike.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center is located on the 2nd floor Academic Building. It provides tutors for students who like to improve their writing abilities.

For more information Contact:

Judy Kahalas

Opinion of RCC Students on Different Social and Political Issues

Students Reaction from News paper article or other Reports

Is War Good for you?
By ; Adam Tiberio

Based on numerous news reports and personal experience

Summary: The author says a war- with Iraq would give the economy a boost and put confidence back in investors. She also suggests a few companies she feels it would be wise to invest in, namely oil and security. Since the Middle East monopolizes most of the world's oil fields, oil prices will almost certainly increase. Security industry is also likely to see strong growth if we attach Iraq.

Bias: Indeed, if history is any guide, a wartime economy is a productive one. The United States emerged from World War II as a bona fide world superpower; the need to properly equip troops boosted industries and created hundreds of thousands of jobs. However, the ultimate beneficiaries of the war were shareholders with large sums invested in relevant wartime industries. The rest, who don't have anything to invest, got jobs; but prices were higher because commodities were scarcer.

Reaction: How war affects you seem to be predicated entirely on your financial status: Families making $40,000 per year should not be optimistic about a wartime bonanza. The rich may get richer investing in the armament and security industries.

INTERESTED IN STARTING A CLUB?

CLUB INFORMATION WORKSHOP
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13 2003
11:30-12:30
STUDENT CENTER BUILDING
ROOM 2001
(Private Dining Room)

Student Government Association

By : Noel Okere

Land Reform

Summary: This report is about the policy of President Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) land reform. The primary goal of this policy is to redistribute the predominantly white controlled fertile land to all Zimbabweans, especially to indigenous blacks. The major goal of this policy is to bring justice to all and bring an end to colonization in Zimbabwe.

Bias: The writer strongly believes the policy of land reform in Zimbabwe will cause serious economic decline in the country. He strongly believes the policy is directed towards political opponents who did not support Mugabe's reelection. Mr. Robinson says land reform is necessary, but President Mugabe is not the right person to implement reform. Pain, hunger, economic decline and violence will be the outcome of land reform carried out by President Mugabe, he concluded.

Reaction: One is tempted to ask, "Will land reform bring economic prosperity to poor black Zimbabweans?" Most experts say no. The land reform policy is ill timed. The poor indigenous Zimbabweans are yet to acquire the necessary skills to engage in mechanized farming, the capital needed for large-scale farming is not available, and President Mugabe's government is not ready to provide it. Land refoffil as being pursued in Zimbabwe today has brought hunger, hardship, and violence.

Mugabe has brought the worst food shortage in the history of the country, everybody is hungry and the victims of this suffering are mostly the poor blacks Mugabe claims to protect. Distributing land does not make it productive.

PRES'S RELEASE

Contact: Cynthia Scott Release Date: October 15, 2003 617-427-0060, X 5139

ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH FINDINGS AT NIH CONFERENCE IN SAN DIEGO

Seven Roxbury Community College students accompanied by Dr. Raymond Turner, Acting Dean, Math, Science and Technology, traveled today to the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students held this year in San Diego. The conference is sponsored by the National Institutes of General I Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health. Students submitted research abstracts competing with two and four-year colleges and universities across the country.

Dr. Gomes, President of Roxbury Community College stated, "This is a milestone for RCC's Undergraduate Science Center. All of the RCC student

abstracts were accepted, demonstrating the quality of our students and of the Center's faculty ."

Abstracts were submitted by the following RCC students: Damali Omolade, Steve Richards, Carmine Metellus, Yama Jo Halson, Lemlem Demeke, Lemtseha Arezgibi, Chinwe Irabour, Mbonu Onujiogu, Amelia N. Barbosa, Girladelle Romain, Claudio Lopez, and Alexander L. Nganga. All research projects focused on environmental health and the geosciences; topics are as follows:

- *.Arsenic Concentrations in Boston Playgrounds where Chromate,*
- *Baseline Airborne Particulate Matter and Traffic Pollution Monitoring for* a *Developing Urban Center (Jackson Square)*
- *Effect of Diesel Particle Exposure on Lung Tissue*
- *.Injury of Bacteria Cell Wall and its Effect on UV Susceptibility of the Airborne SerratIa Marcesens*
- *Investigating Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) in Urban Boston Playgrounds*
- *Investigating the Efficacy of Upper Room Germicidal Ultraviolet Radiation (UV-C) on Airborne Bacteria*
- *Lead and Arsenic Soil Concentrations of Fort Hill Towers, Roxbury, MA.* Students designed and carried out their research with assistance from the Roxbury Community College Undergraduate Research Center, Harvard University -Department of Environmental Health and Geosciences Research, Harvard University -School of Public Health, Environmental Health and Environmental Safety Departments, Harvard University -Applied Science Department and Northeastern University Pharmaceutical Research Department Research activities are supported by the Roxbury Community College ATOMS *(Advanced Training Opportunities for Minorities in Science)* program funded by the National Institutes of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health .

Student Government is looking for students who are interested in writing articles for the newsletter.

Contact:

Abeba Attles, President

Student Government Association

1234 Columbus Avenue

Boston, MA 02120

Phone: 617-427-0060

Ext. 5003

Career & Transfer Services

Fall 2003 Activities

All activities are held during Activity Block, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.

Each of the activities qualifies as an "outside activity" for College Survival Seminar!

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Thursday, 11/13	Joint Admissions & Cross Registration Info Session	206 Academic
Thursday, 11/13	Interviewing Skills	129 Academic
Tuesday, 11/18	Career Planning for Graduating Students	129 Academic
Thursday, 11/20	Finding Summer Jobs & Internships	129 Academic

- ·Please check the bulletin boards and TV monitors around campus for" updates" on other Career & Transfer related activities.
- Sign up for Joint Admissions and be guaranteed to get into a 4 year Massachusetts College or University!
- ·Stop by Room 207P and pick up a Foundation Scholarship Application and apply today!
- Individual Employers and Admissions Representatives will visit R.C.C. throughout the semester.
- ·Stop by the Learning Center (Room 207) to pick up your free copy of the Career & Transfer Services Brochure today!

WHY CHOOSE ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

Roxbury Community College and you belong together, because Roxbury Community College provides ..

- Open access to education
- Location close to your home
- Low cost; less than $3,000 per year .Quality education
- Attention to the basics: Acquire good English and math skills
- Savings: If you complete two years at a community college, you can transfer to a four-year college, saving you two years of the higher tuition
- .A second chance, if you have not done well in high school, or at another college
- Financial assistance to eligible applicants
- Automatic acceptance to a public four-year college, if your grade point average is 2.5 or better
- Community colleges serve as building blocks which are designed to help you prepare academically for a good job, or transfer to a four-year institution
- Community colleges cater to your needs through: flexible program, placement exams, to ensure that you start at the right level small classes, special attention, free, counseling, advising, and tender loving care
- Dual Enrollment programs .Scholarship opportunities
- Transfer and articulation agreements
- Cross registration
- *Massachusetts Commonwealth* transfer compact

This Newsletter is
Prepared by Abeba Attles(SGA)
Edited by Judy Kahalas
Photographer Dale M.Alleyne

Winter Wonderland Ball

Date: December 12,2003

Time: 8 pm– 1am

Where: RCC Cafeteria

Price: $10 per person

$15 per couple between Nov. 10-21- 2003

Tickets will be available between 9:00 am to 11 a.m.

***in* the cafeteria or at the**

Student Activities Office.

Come enjoy a nice winter evening with your classmates!!

Formal Dress is a must!! This is a black tie affair!